

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

VA Palo Alto Health Care System

THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

All applications receive consideration without regard to race, religion, color national origin, non-disqualifying mental or physical disability, age (with authorized exceptions), sex, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor.

Vacancy Annc No. 01-2013	Opening Date 05/20/2013	Closing Date 06/28/2013	# Posns 5
Position Title Nuclear Medicine Technologist Trainee - WOC		PD Number 000000	Pay Plan, Series, Grade N/A
Service Nuclear Medicine		Promotion Potential None	Salary Range N/A: Without Compensation (WOC)
Duty Station(s): 3 @ Palo Alto, CA; and 1 each @ VACCHCS-Fresno, CA and VANCHCS, Sacramento, CA.		Tour of Duty Monday – Friday, 8:00a.m. – 4:30p.m. (May start as early as 7:00a.m. at some sites)	
Work Schedule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full-time <input type="checkbox"/> Intermittent <input type="checkbox"/> Part-time @ _____ hrs/wk		Subject to Bargaining Unit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes-Minimum posting: 14 calendar days <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Temporary NTE <u>15 months</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Term NTE _____		Subject to Supervisory Probationary Period <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (First-time supervisors subject to 1 year)	
Subject to Drug Testing <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (See notes below)		Physical or Medical Examination Required <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (See notes below)	
Travel and/or relocation expenses <input type="checkbox"/> are authorized <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> are not authorized			
<i>Applicants currently serving under recruitment or relocation incentive service obligation must notify this office of the conditions of their agreement.</i>			
Relocation Incentive <input type="checkbox"/> is authorized <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is not authorized		Recruitment incentive <input type="checkbox"/> is authorized <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is not authorized	
Area of Consideration – For information on application procedures, see section on ‘HOW TO APPLY’ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC – This training opportunity is open to the general public			
Point of Contact – Inquiries should be directed to the following individual at (650) 858-3951. Apollo Baldias, Human Resources Assistant			
REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION This office provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need reasonable accommodations for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify this office. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis.			
THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS SUPPORTS A DRUG-FREE ENVIRONMENT			

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MAILED TO:

VA Palo Alto Health Care System
Human Resources Management Service (05A)
Attn: Apollo I. Baldias
3801 Miranda Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: The Nuclear Medicine Technology Training Program (NMTTP) at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System is a full-time, 15-month curriculum of classroom and clinical training. The NMTTP is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Nuclear Medicine Technology. Training will begin January 6th, 2014 and will end April 10th, 2015. Students must pass all program requirements to graduate. Graduates must pass at least one of the national certifying exams administered by the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board and the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists for licensure/certification. Upon successful completion of the training program and certification, the incumbent will be able to perform general nuclear medicine and positron emission tomography (PET) examinations on patients. During the program, s/he will receive classroom training on the principles and methodologies used in nuclear medicine technology, methods of patient care, radiation safety, nuclear medicine physics and radiation physics, nuclear instrumentation, statistics, radionuclide chemistry and radiopharmacy, radiation biology, diagnostic nuclear medicine imaging and non-imaging in-vivo and in-vitro procedures, radionuclide therapy, computer applications for nuclear medicine, immunology, and quality control. Students training at remote clinical sites will attend lectures via live, interactive video teleconference. Clinical practicum experience is designed to provide the trainee with the practical application of the didactic coursework, including: patient care and record keeping; radiation safety; quality control; preparation, calculation, identification, administration, quality assurance and disposal of radiopharmaceuticals; performance of an appropriate number and variety of procedures to achieve desired clinical competencies; and clinical correlation of nuclear medicine procedures and PET.

NOTE: While not a requirement, some clinical experience (volunteer or otherwise) is desirable. Education and training will require travel between clinical affiliates. Each student is responsible for transportation costs including parking fees. All students must attend a mandatory 1-week orientation course in Palo Alto during the first week of the program. Student(s) based in Fresno must also attend a 4 to 5 week PET internship at either the VA Palo Alto or VA Mather training site during the course of the academic year.

Program Prerequisites: Selection is based on related experience, education, feedback from professional-level referrals and an interview with program officials. Postsecondary education (from an accredited college or university) shall include an Associate's (or higher level degree) plus the following: (1) Chemistry with laboratory, and (2) College algebra (or higher level math), and (3) General physics, and (4) Human anatomy and physiology with laboratory and (5) a Humanities course, and (6) Oral and written communications (e.g. English literature and speech), and (7) a Social science course.

Additional VA-Specific Requirements:

1. Proficient skill in spoken and written English is essential. Individuals appointed to direct patient care positions must be proficient in spoken and written English as required by Title 38, United States Code (38 U.S.C.). In cases where English language proficiency is in question, the provisions of VA Handbook 5005, Part II, Appendix I, and of paragraph 5 of VA Handbook 5005, Part II, Chapter 2 will apply.
2. Applicants must meet the physical requirements of the target position, which includes moderate-to-heavy lifting, and positioning of patients. Selected applicants will be subject to successfully passing a physical examination and will be required to meet TB screening requirements before being placed into this position.
3. All applicants tentatively selected for VA employment in a testing designated position are subject to random drug screen (urinalysis) for illegal drug use. Applicants who refuse to be tested will be denied employment with the VA.

Specific Notices:

1. ***U.S. Citizenship Required*** – If applicable, non-citizens may be appointed when no citizens are available in accordance with regulations issued by the Under Secretary for Health.
2. ***Individuals selected for training will be appointed on a without compensation (WOC) basis for a period not-to-exceed 1 year under 38 U.S.C. 7405 (a)(1).*** Trainees will be under the direct supervision of the Program Director for the NMTTP. Performance will be rated on the student's progress. Upon completion of the training component of the program cycle, students will have completed course work, clinical and didactic activities that prepare them for certification by the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB) and/or the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT).
3. ***Participation in this training program will not lead to permanent Federal employment as a Nuclear Medicine Technologist or to placement in any other occupation with VA Palo Alto Health Care System.*** Should a position become available, applicants who successfully complete this program and who wish further employment would have to pursue, apply, compete, and be selected for a position under applicable Federal regulations.
4. ***Background Investigation*** – Continued employment in this position is conditioned upon favorable adjudication of a National Agency Check with Written Inquiries (NACI) as a minimum requirement.

HOW TO APPLY – Applicants should submit each of the following documents (unless otherwise noted).

1. **OF-612** - Application for Federal Employment - can be obtained by going to the following website: <http://federalgovernmentjobs.us/forms/of612.pdf> - or -
2. **Résumé** - If a résumé is submitted, you must include information requested in the flyer "Applying for a Federal Job," Optional Application for Federal Employment form (OF-612); **AND**
3. **OF-306** - Declaration of Federal Employment - can be obtained by calling the number above or from website: <http://opm.gov/Forms/html/of.asp>. *You must complete this form to determine suitability for appointment.* **AND**
4. **Transcripts:** Applicants should submit a copy (unofficial) of their college transcripts at the time of application or no later than the closing date of this announcement. *Please underline any college-level coursework in the following areas: Chemistry, Physics, Math, English (oral or written communication) and/or Anatomy & Physiology;* **AND**
5. **Letter of Intent:** Include with your application a brief (250 words or less) essay describing why you want to become a nuclear medicine technologist; **AND**
6. **Related Experience:** Include with your application a brief (150 words or less) description of any related work experience in the health care or nuclear industry, including any volunteer experience; **AND**
7. **Current Licensure:** If you currently hold a license or certificate in another allied health field, please include a copy with your application.
8. **Preferred Training Site:** Please indicate if you wish to be considered for (or excluded from) placement within the following training locales: Sacramento, Fresno and/or Palo Alto. Please note that availability is limited, thus we

cannot always match students with their regional preference. Students who do not indicate their preferred training site will be considered for all possible locations including the VA Palo Alto host site.

9. **Professional-level Referrals**: Include with your application, contact information (name, telephone number and email address for 2 professional-level referrals. The referrals listed should be supervisors, instructors or other superiors with first-hand knowledge of your skills/abilities and work ethic.

To receive consideration, all application materials must be received in this office no later than the closing date of this announcement. Any information not submitted with your original application will not be considered. Failure to submit the requested material and response to the rating factors may result in a lower rating in the evaluation process.

All application materials will become the property of the Human Resources Management Service and will not be returned, used for other positions, or duplicated once submitted.

In accordance with 18 U.S.C. 1719, use of postage-paid government agency envelopes to file job applications is a violation of Federal law and regulation. Applications mailed in postage-paid government envelopes, sent by Federal agency special courier services or submitted through Federal fax machines will not be considered.